

1 It would be possible, of course, to
2 extend it into a more fully market base system in
3 which the public and the private sector compete for
4 the use of spectrum. But I felt that at this
5 stage, the European environment wasn't ready for
6 such a radical step or as I think it is ready for
7 the introduction of the market base reforms that
8 I've recommended. Thank you.

9 MR. KURTIS: My name is Michael Kurtis.
10 I'm the president of Kurtis and Associates PC.
11 Since we're doing disclaimers, unfortunately, I am
12 an attorney and I'm an engineer. So my perspective
13 though is quite narrow. It's from that of the
14 rural telecommunications carriers providing
15 commercial mobile radio service in the nonurban
16 areas such as a PCS and cellular. From our
17 perspective, there's been a lot of talk about going
18 with someone acquiring all the spectrum and then
19 privately managing it. And I guess I'm hearkened
20 back to paraphrase the words of Winston Churchill,
21 in that the FCC is a very bad way to regulate
22 spectrum usage, but I fear the others are much
23 worse.

24 And the situation that we are primarily
25 concerned about is going down a track of one size

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1 fits all. That urban versus rural area is set with
2 the same implementation of rules and not only from
3 the standpoint of what meets the needs of the urban
4 versus what meets the need of the rural, but also
5 the consideration of the interplay between them.
6 For example, just this week, the FCC announced a
7 plan to sunset the analog standard for cellular,
8 which you know there were a lot of comments filed.

9 But we need to see what the order says because
10 while there is a need for greater spectrum
11 efficiency in the urban areas, what the rural
12 carriers had filed concern about is we are a rural
13 carrier and the urban market to the left of us
14 deploys one technology such as CDMA.

15 The urban market to the right of us
16 deploys the other technology, TDMA. The analog
17 standard is what allows all of my subscribers to be
18 able to receive service in both of the markets and
19 the concern that we have is even if we decided to
20 build both technologies in our market, we still
21 don't have a radio we could sell to a customer who
22 wants to travel to both of the urban markets.

23 So the concern that we have is in
24 developing a new spectrum model. We keep in mind
25 that there's been a lot of money paid for licenses

1 already in this particular service, that there was
2 a situation that extreme amounts of money that have
3 been spent to develop networks and that we are
4 meeting the needs of customers nationwide that are
5 spending a considerable amount of money to purchase
6 hand sets and I think have an expectation of being
7 able to continue to have the right to utilize those
8 handsets and to get service on a going forward
9 basis.

10 MS. WARREN: Hello, my name is Jennifer
11 Warren and I'm senior director for Trade and
12 Regulatory Affairs at Lockheed-Martin Corporation
13 and I'm an ex-FCC staffer and I am a lawyer. But
14 while I was at the FCC, I served in both the
15 International Bureau and the Wireless Bureau, so
16 bringing both the satellite and the wireless
17 perspective. And coming from Lockheed-Martin,
18 which has historically has been viewed as a
19 satellite services, a company with satellite
20 services by us. My portfolio has expanded
21 considerably over the last few years to where it
22 now incorporates interest as a business licensee,
23 as an experimental licensee, as an aeronautical
24 services provider, as a system integrator recently
25 entering into the public safety arena.

1 So I have a very marked interest, and
2 with the outcome of the special policy task forces,
3 because it will basically affect every aspect of
4 some of our businesses. And so that's why I'm here
5 and I'd like to introduce into this discussion,
6 while we've been focusing on spectrum rights, we
7 really haven't focused on responsibilities. And
8 when I raise responsibilities, I don't mean what
9 are our responsibilities to protect either our
10 neighbors or those with whom we share the band, but
11 what are the responsibilities that are imposed on
12 the licensees; licensees versus users'
13 responsibilities in the spectrum.

14 MR. MILLER: Hi, I'm Larry Miller. My
15 background started in civil defense, public safety
16 communications about 23 years ago; from there into
17 transportation, and for the last 12 years I've
18 worked for one of the FCC certified frequency
19 coordinators, and I can appreciate the reference to
20 Winston Churchill. You know, frequency
21 coordination is a process that receives a
22 significant amount of criticism and it probably is
23 a very, very bad system but it's better than
24 anything else that anyone has ever come up with.
25 And so my basic experience is with shared use, how

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1 to limit technical and operational parameters to
2 new licensees so that they can coexist with the
3 existing incumbents in the band.

4 MR. HAZLETT: Hi, my name is Tom
5 Hazlett and I am a former FCC Chief Economist where
6 my primary function was to be research assistant to
7 Evan Kwerel.

8 (Laughter.)

9 And I'm currently a Senior Fellow with
10 the Manhattan Institute and my views on spectrum
11 reform are laid out in a 4-page filing in this
12 proceeding attached to which is a 20-page paper
13 that was written last November and advocated that
14 the FCC set up a spectrum policy task force and now
15 that the Commission is following my instructions, I
16 expect forward progress will be substantial. I
17 also have a 200-page plus paper that is available
18 on my website and published last year also on the
19 website by the Harvard Journal of Law and
20 Technology.

21 In less than 200 pages, let me
22 summarize the top 10 points. One, current spectrum
23 allocation policy is ultra-conservative, creating
24 large social losses. The task force should pursue
25 a better balancing of costs and benefits for

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1 wireless entry and innovation.

2 Two, competitive markets will
3 accomplish this if permitted to.

4 Three, the path to this market solution
5 is via deregulation. Rules limiting flexible use
6 of frequencies assigned to licenses should be
7 removed. Laws and procedures blocking access to
8 under utilized bands by new entrance should be
9 eliminated.

10 Four, the primary function of the law
11 is to allow spectrum users clear control of
12 frequency space with liability for damages
13 incurred. The regulatory function is not to (a)
14 create markets; (b) settle all interference issues;
15 (c) find the perfect path to liberalization.

16 Five, interference dispute resolution
17 now a detailed ex ante Commission determination,
18 inefficiently front loads the regulatory process
19 paying incumbents to stretch out real arguments.
20 Interference adjudication should move to a
21 liability framework.

22 Six, deregulation is not a windfall.
23 Nations that grant substantially more rights to
24 wireless operators see lower license bids at
25 auction. Liberalization will result in wipeouts

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1 for many operators and licensees which should not
2 be compensated.

3 Seven, do not take broadcast TV
4 spectrum off the board on public interest grounds.

5 On public interest grounds, the arguments are
6 overwhelming that much greater social value would
7 result where the airwave is redeployed. Markets
8 can do that.

9 Eight, spectrum scarcity continues to
10 be a problem in both licensed and unlicensed uses,
11 and rules that reduce coordination problems are the
12 goal of proconsumer public policy.

13 Nine, shared use does not have to be
14 unlicensed. The most successful application of
15 spread spectrum technology, for example, is
16 codivision multiple access via licensed broadband
17 PCS. Flexible rights promote investment,
18 technology, and spectrum sharing.

19 Ten, a free and competitive market in
20 wireless bandwidth will allow entrants to
21 expeditiously gain spectrum access by paying the
22 marginal cost of bandwidth. That is the public
23 policy optimum. Thanks.

24 MR. FURTH: Well, I think the
25 introductions have touched already on a number of

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1 issues that we'll be coming back to and I expect
2 that there will be some very interesting discussion
3 of those issues. I wanted to start off with what I
4 might call a clean sheet of paper question, and we
5 actually asked the panelists to think about this
6 question ahead of time and it's based on a
7 hypothetical. In order to perhaps get some sense
8 of where it is that the people on this panel would
9 want to ultimately go with respect to defining
10 spectrum rights and responsibilities, and the
11 hypothetical is as follows. Assume that you have
12 essentially two spectrum use models at your
13 disposal. Assume that you are in the role of the
14 regulator, you're in the role of the FCC, except
15 perhaps with some plenary powers that even we do
16 not have.

17 The two models, one is an exclusive
18 rights licensing model that looks more or less like
19 our PCS rules, just to take an example. The second
20 model is an unlicensed model that looks
21 surprisingly like our Part 15 rules to take another
22 example. You have the choice to apply either model
23 to any spectrum from 300 megahertz to 300
24 gigahertz. If you would like you can also reserve
25 spectrum for specialized uses that you don't want

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1 to license or assign or allocate under either
2 model. Assume that you're dealing with today's
3 technology and assume, at least for the sake of the
4 initial hypothetical, that you don't have any
5 incumbents. This is the last time you're going to
6 be able to make that later assumption by the way.

7 And the question I'd like the start
8 with is which model would you use or would you use
9 both and why? How would you decide which model to
10 use in any particular band of spectrum? What types
11 of spectrum uses, if any, would you reserve
12 spectrum for and not apply either model to them?

13 Anybody want to take a crack at that?

14 MS. WARREN: Sure.

15 MR. FURTH: Jennifer, go.

16 MS. WARREN: I'll be the target for
17 everyone else's comments. I guess I would first
18 say that I wouldn't pick a band. I'm going to talk
19 more generically than that, but I'm going to take
20 about models and I would have both models. I would
21 have an unlicensed model. I do think there's
22 obviously great merit in the unlicensed. It is
23 innovative and all the things we've heard over the
24 last three days from all the unlicensed speakers
25 that have been here. But I do think there are

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1 responsibilities that the licensed uses offer.

2 There's certain customer
3 responsibilities, consumer responsibilities if you
4 like, that go with being a licensed user,
5 particularly if you're CMRS or some of the other
6 categories. And I think there's, unless we're
7 assuming away public interest obligations of the
8 FCC which you did not address, I'm assuming there
9 are responsibilities beyond just a market approach.
10 And I don't equate public interest with market
11 based spectrum management.

12 So I would have both, recognizing as I
13 said that there are interests in both. I would not
14 reserve -- I'm not really sure what you mean by
15 reserve, but if you mean allocate and just don't
16 put out for assignment purposes. Yes, I probably
17 think it's helpful to allocate spectrum for
18 services to give product developers an indication
19 of where they might build to and explore, know what
20 they're sharing if any sharing environment, or what
21 their exclusive rights might be. But I would
22 allocate and then when there's a petition or
23 license request upon then proceed with assigning.
24 I wouldn't artificially withhold and I wouldn't
25 artificially throw out there with no proponents for

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1 use. And we've seen both situations and neither
2 one has produced great results.

3 MR. GATTUSO: What kind of system would
4 let a guy like me make a decision that's so
5 important which is, of course, I'm being facetious,
6 but not entirely because I think one of the
7 essential things I'm talking about is how the
8 system works, how the rights work, and how the
9 system makes decisions like this. And does it come
10 down to putting a decision like that in the hands
11 of somebody who works for the government? And a
12 lot of people argue that government is the only
13 place that can make the decision or is the
14 government's role slightly different?

15 And I think that's part of our debate
16 here because if there are certain rights, if there
17 are certain things in place that lead to an
18 efficient outcome, there may be more of a framework
19 that the government establishes rather than
20 decisions. Now, if I did have to make the
21 decision, the first thing I'd say is it's too easy
22 to say I'd use them both because I like to balance
23 things, I'd use them both. But I think one of the
24 things I'd want to look at is what decision would
25 be most likely to accommodate the best result over

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1 the long term, and I would ask if you went to one
2 or the other of these, are there exclusive rights
3 or the shared one? Is that something that could
4 evolve into a different system?

5 Sometimes I think if we maintain the
6 concept of spectrum with a consistent idea of
7 rights starting with the type of titling rights and
8 then going to a type of spectrum use rights, you
9 could almost think of the commons approach as
10 something where the title is held with the
11 government, and in fact, there's an exclusive title
12 with the government and the government has chosen
13 to open this up for a commons uses. So you could
14 actually argue, I'm stretching this, but I could
15 argue you could actually have an exclusive rights
16 model that could accommodate either one at least in
17 terms of the ultimate title.

18 MR. CALABRESE: I would -- I think
19 especially given the assumption that given today's
20 technology, that we would certainly need to have a
21 version of each of these. But what I'd want to
22 make sure, I think above all, is that the former
23 does not constrain the later. In other words, that
24 exclusive, for as long as we have licensing, that
25 the exclusive rights and flexibility do not

1 constrain the development of the unlicensed
2 technology that can dynamically share.

3 And to understand that I think it's
4 important to make a distinction that has been
5 somewhat lost in some of these conversations, and
6 that is when we talk about unlicensed Part 15 type,
7 I think most people think about today's technology
8 based on, you know, WiFi technologies, 802.11 and
9 so on which really are our means to share wire line
10 connections using a hub and spoke architecture. It
11 operates on a channelized basis. But what David
12 Reed and some others have been talking about, for
13 example, in the last panel, called open spectrum is
14 something very different. I mean that is really
15 three to five years off, but it is more of an
16 ultra-wide band technology that creates a potential
17 for ad hoc meshed user controlled networking that
18 dynamically shares spectrums and serves as
19 repeaters for traffic between those. So it's way
20 beyond WiFi.

21 Okay, so when we look at the word
22 unlicensed we can't just think about today's
23 technology. We have to make sure that the bundle
24 of rights and the type of flexibility allows room
25 for the evolution of interference standards and so

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1 on in order to unleash the potential technologies
2 that are still on the drawing board.

3 MR. KURTIS: Starting out with the
4 clean sheet of paper, I had all kinds of great
5 ideas, but I kept settling back to the concept that
6 there is a need for a bifurcated regime. We do
7 need to have spectrum that has property rights and
8 I would go so far as to say a standard of usage.
9 And what I keep boiling down to is if I'm using my
10 cell phone, I want to be able to use it as I
11 travel. If I move from Indiana to Virginia, I want
12 to make sure that someone broadcasts television
13 signals that will work on the TV set that I bought
14 in Chicago for the technology that that particular
15 TV station chose to put out.

16 Market place is fine and there are
17 always applications where a market-driven spectrum
18 usage is going to have its needs and I think we've
19 seen that in the Part 15 where you can have very
20 different flavors of noncompatible wireless
21 handsets that are talking to the bay station that's
22 plugged in in the family room. But I think once
23 you get to other items that are intended to allow
24 common usage over the airwaves, I think you have to
25 back down from that market place model, and there

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1 are certain items that we need to have a body such
2 as the FCC to make sure that the industry grows,
3 that the market place that fosters the development
4 of the high quality television set that's available
5 for purchase because the people manufacturing it
6 know that there will be a market for a period of
7 time for that technology. So I very much favor
8 keeping the split approach.

9 MR. STROH: I don't favor keeping the
10 split approach, but I recognize that the licensed
11 allocations are a necessary evil for the time being
12 because they're not going to get blown away. And
13 we're constrained to some extent. For example,
14 we're not going to rebuild the highway system in
15 some better model to support trucks and cars and
16 bicycles, ideally. We have to live with what is
17 there. What I do think is that it's the new
18 digital technology, the software-defined radio,
19 spread spectrum, very low power operation signal
20 processors have made it possible for us, for
21 licensed exempt users, to piggyback on licensed
22 spectrum that's not being used. And I use the
23 example of the television broadcasting spectrum
24 that's pitifully under utilized in rural areas at
25 this point.

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1 Why not a radio that could take
2 advantage of that fallow spectrum in rural areas to
3 provide broad band services without the necessity
4 of completely rebuilding copper infrastructure or
5 putting up with the irritating delays of satellite
6 broadband? The industry that I watch most closely,
7 the wireless ISP industry is doing this now.
8 They're making it work with 2.4 gig spectrum but
9 there are places they can't go. There are cost
10 points they can't meet, people they cannot service
11 because of the limitations of the technology. But
12 if they were permitted to buy equipment that could
13 make use of that spectrum now, and the MMDS
14 spectrum is even worse in how pitifully
15 underutilized it is. They could provide much
16 greater services including voice.

17 MR. HAZLETT: The goal of the
18 Commission, I believe, should be a cheap spectrum
19 policy. This has been lost, it's certainly with
20 license auctions on the table the last decade or
21 so. People talk as if you're trying to maximize
22 those rents you can extract through high prices for
23 licenses. It's, of course, the wrong approach and
24 the way to get to a cheap spectrum policy is not to
25 do it through artificially suppressing the price

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1 signals that people face. It's to actually allow
2 lots of competing exclusive use licenses, whether
3 it comes through what you want to call band
4 managers or exclusive use licensees, or even to
5 some extent unlicensed users who could have, and in
6 fact, do exercise property rights effectively even
7 under current unlicensed rules.

8 But the thing that has to be remembered
9 is that coordination amongst these various users is
10 still important. You just read through this
11 record, the filings here, or any of the other
12 proceedings that are similar on spectrum policy,
13 licensed or unlicensed. And you have all kinds of
14 demands on the Commission to impose a standard.
15 We've heard about seven of them so far. To impose
16 rules, to impose use restrictions on various
17 alternatives. Seems rather late date to have to
18 argue that this is why God created competitive
19 markets, not the portals, okay?

20 The portals should be used for
21 something useful, and it's not to micromanage these
22 markets. Now the useful function is to get lots of
23 competing and flexible spectrum assignments out in
24 the market place so all kinds of uses, shared,
25 unshared, it's hard for me to think of an unshared

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1 use, but if you want to call it that. Then to get
2 out there, but do it in a way that the
3 transaction's costs of putting coordination
4 together, amongst all the shared use can be handled
5 reasonably.

6 And again, there's no contradiction
7 between these sort of open entry environments and
8 exclusive use licensing by the FCC. In fact, if
9 you have a number of competing band managers or
10 band owners in the marketplace, they will, in fact,
11 invest to bring the traffic in, to bring the shared
12 use in, and to manage and coordinate new
13 infrastructure amongst those multiple users to
14 limit these conflicts. And all these examples,
15 like the TV spectrum that can't be used, that's a
16 tragedy of the commons, not of exclusive use
17 licensing.

18 The commons is, in essence, the
19 socialization of the spectrum through the
20 regulatory process. If, in fact, there was
21 ownership in the market for those unused rights, of
22 course you can have these kinds of contracts.

23 It's important also to understand that
24 the great thing about unlicensed is the "un." And
25 the places where it's most effective is where the

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1 real cost of spectrum is low; not artificially low,
2 but where it is low and it will probably stay low
3 for some time, particularly in environments where
4 there will not be as much competition or scarcity.

5 For example, in rural environments some of these
6 wireless ISPs are doing very well there and there's
7 a lot of aggressiveness there.

8 Local area networks, where property
9 owners assert de facto control in the coffee shop
10 or the airport waiting area or what not. These
11 sorts of areas can be, in essence, licensed
12 exclusively through the unlicensed process. In
13 fact, they are being used that way today so
14 coordination can take place. This is what the FCC
15 should look to, how you can get these decentralized
16 decisions and all the flexibility that that
17 entails. It was said that one size fits all is
18 wrong. That's absolutely correct. One size fits
19 all is what you get when you regulate and
20 micromanage from Washington the diversity and
21 variety that comes through decentralized decision
22 making in allowing the market to come up with
23 various uses and to maximize traffic because you as
24 the rights owner of the bandwidth can do that.
25 That's where you get the variation that will

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1 maximize consumer welfare.

2 MR. CALABRESE: I thought I'd interject
3 in order to really confuse everybody since Tom, who
4 I agree with completely redeploying broadcast
5 spectrum, but when he says that the broadcasters or
6 the broadcast spectrum is a commons, you know, I
7 would think that quite the opposite is true which
8 is that actually the broadcast spectrum would be
9 the perfect home for a commons and that, in fact,
10 the commons, when we talk about unlicensed devices,
11 dynamically sharing, that that's the ultimate
12 market solution because what that does is it takes
13 the bureaucrat, whether government or corporate out
14 of the middle.

15 What it does is it allows the equipment
16 manufacturers and the software manufacturers to put
17 more sophisticated devices directly into the hands
18 of individual citizens, and then they can decide,
19 you know, how and when they want to communicate.
20 An open spectrum imagines that on a peer to peer
21 basis. So I think the most important point in all
22 this is to not
23 -- we obviously have to continue these two models,
24 you know, the licensing and the commons together
25 for quite some time.

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1 But we should be sure that the former
2 is not impinging on the development of the later,
3 because we're really in a major historic evolution,
4 I mean from analog to digital, from dumb devices to
5 cognitive radio, from narrow, from screaming over
6 narrow bands to whispering ultra-wide band, from
7 exclusive to sharing, from scarcity ultimately to
8 abundance. And so we also have to change from this
9 sort of zoning exclusive rights zoning model to
10 more and more and more of a commons model.

11 MR. FURTH: Let me ask a question here
12 because I'm hearing a number of people talking
13 about wanting to use both models, either because
14 they think it's correct as an ultimate policy goal
15 or because they see it as a practical necessity
16 that we're not going to get rid of one model at the
17 expense of the other ultimately. But I think I
18 want to go back to a point that Joe made which is,
19 is this really a decision that he or I or us at the
20 FCC should be making? Is it inevitable that the
21 FCC has to make this decision or is there some way,
22 in other words, through writing rules, or is there
23 some way in which we can set up a structure of
24 spectrum policy that allows this decision to be
25 made in the market place and by the market place?

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1 And if so. how would that happen? What would be
2 the rules that we would write in order to make that
3 happen?

4 MS. WARREN: Could I just say one
5 thing? First of all, you would rewrite the
6 Communications Act to get rid of public interest.

7 MR. FURTH: Why is that?

8 MS. WARREN: Because I think Part 15
9 when we talk about unlicensed devices, for example,
10 the gentleman down there pointed out the caveat in
11 Part 15 on licensed uses which is no expectation
12 that this device will not operate or what was the
13 exact language that you used?

14 MR. STROH: Must accept interference
15 even when it causes undesirable operation.

16 MS. WARREN: Whatsoever. Do we want
17 the customer, consumer, to have no rights and to
18 give that much control, in some ways, to a greater
19 upper hand to the manufacturers? I don't know.
20 It's a question I put because Michael said
21 something about putting the customers in control,
22 the consumers in control because they'll just keep
23 purchasing different devices as things improve.
24 But I mean we have competing manufacturers and
25 unlicensed devices, some rules, but Darwinian rules

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1 is what I've understood -- everybody has said over
2 the last three session. So where does the consumer
3 come out in this?

4 MR. STROH: He has greater choice. He
5 ultimately achieves greater choice.

6 MS. WARREN: He has greater choice or
7 he's forced to constantly change?

8 MR. STROH: If you go into Target, you
9 can walk up and down the aisle and there's 20, 30,
10 40 different cordless phones. You take your copy
11 of Consumer Reports which has done the test and
12 buy on the basis of which one Consumer Reports says
13 operates the best.

14 MR. KURTIS: But the key is no matter
15 which one of those you select, you can plug it into
16 the jack and it's going to work. I submit to you
17 that if you say, you know, let's throw it all open
18 you're in a situation where you're walking down the
19 aisle. There are 12 different models to pick from
20 and there's only one that works with your
21 particular landline telephone network.

22 To stretch the analogy, suppose you
23 bought the WorldCom compatible toll phone and then
24 something happens and WorldCom is not there and you
25 can't move that phone to another competitor or you

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1 have an AT&T TDMA phone that AT&T is phasing out
2 and you're stuck with -- you're perfectly happy
3 with it, but AT&T says sorry, can't use that
4 anymore. But without defending AT&T which is a
5 position I'm particularly uncomfortable with --

6 (Laughter.)

7 I am not aware, and David is probably
8 in a better position to say this, that AT&T said
9 turn off all your phones today because we're no
10 longer supporting it because that gives the
11 consumer the incentive to go out and shop around, I
12 think there's going to be some type of a transition
13 that recognizes the fact that that has been an
14 adopted standard, that that unit is out there and
15 they'll make it in their customers' best interest
16 to migrate as they want them to migrate.

17 The customer always has the choice, but
18 they have an underlying compatibility that they can
19 rely on. Right now, for example, that phone would
20 work analog. So they could use it in an analog
21 mode.

22 MR. WYE: And at the risk of actually
23 representing AT&T wireless --

24 (Laughter.)

25 Thank you to Michael for doing that for

1 me actually, it was very well done. Certainly
2 we're in the middle of managing a transition now.
3 I mean, my company at this point runs analog, TDMA,
4 GSM, CDPD, GPRS. We've got a bunch of stuff going
5 on and it doesn't make sense for me to go out and
6 strand my customers. When we migrate them, they
7 have the opportunity to migrate.

8 Now I will immediately point out the
9 difference perhaps between Michael and AT&T
10 Wireless. We actually were a little disappointed
11 that the Commission took five years to sunset the
12 analog rule.

13 We are trying to manage a transition
14 now to greater speeds, higher use of digital
15 technology, and you know, we believe that that is
16 going to hinder our ability. I fully understand
17 Michael's position. He certainly kind of lives in
18 a slightly different world than we do. But you
19 know, to go back to maybe the original question a
20 little bit, clearly I think there's somewhat of a
21 consensus, I think, on this group that you're going
22 to have to have both even in a kind of clean sheet
23 environment. I think you can see the benefits of
24 having both types of models working together.

25 How do you decide how much of one and

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